REMARKS

Applicants have considered the grounds for rejection in the Final Office Action dated June 28, 2007, which was later affirmed by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences in the Decision dated January 29, 2010, and Decision on Request for Rehearing dated May 18, 2010, submit that the presently pending claims are patentable over the prior art.

All of the previously pending claims 1-18 have been rejected, and the rejection of claims 1-18 was affirmed on appeal. Notwithstanding Applicants' strong belief that the grounds for the continued rejection of the previously pending claims was improper, Applicants have submitted the present amendment to claim 1 to clarify and more definitively distinguish Applicants' invention from the prior art upon which the previous rejections are based and in accordance with the reasons provided by the Board in its initial Decision as well as the Decision on Request for Rehearing.

Applicants request favorable reconsideration of the previous rejection in view of Applicants' amendments and remarks.

Please charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 12-1216.

Conclusion

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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